



October 31, 2019

The Honorable Lyda Krewson
Mayor, City of St. Louis
1200 Market Street
St. Louis, MO 63103

Dear Mayor Krewson,



As Mayors of St. Louis County municipalities positioned as gateway corridors to the Greater St. Louis Region at St. Louis Lambert International Airport, we are deeply interested in the ongoing privatization discussions underway. As elected leaders, it is our responsibility to plan for our future growth and sustainability – a future uniquely tied to economic activity and development of Lambert Airport and its properties.

We have invested millions in local tax dollars to support economic development and infrastructure projects that sustain our communities and regional economy. We host hotel, rental car, restaurant, warehouse and other business services that provide jobs and revenue for our communities and citizens, as well as serve the needs of the airport and its users. A strong, versatile and welcoming airport is essential to our resilience and success.

As Mayors, we also share and understand the responsibility of public trust. Open and inclusive dialogue is an essential part of building and protecting this trust. We appreciate early indications that you would require an open transparent process that includes public outreach and engagement. As you now enter an RFQ process to receive private proposals, we are asking for an opportunity to participate, and better understand what private development is planned under a privatization plan for this essential regional public asset. This information is needed for us to carry out our responsibility to our citizens and businesses as it relates to fiscal and development planning.

To that end, we are asking your help to facilitate a briefing of Mayor's that will update us on airport privatization plans and priorities, and offer our input on impacts on our local communities.

We all value the rich history and heritage we share in St. Louis City, County and our many large and small municipalities. We want to continue regional growth that allows St. Louis to welcomes more than 26.1 million annual visitors for leisure, conventions, meetings and business travel, providing \$5.8 billion in St. Louis and 88,000 tourism jobs for area residents. For these reasons, and many more, the question of how to ensure continued growth and vitality of the airport should be embraced as a responsibility of all of us.

We are committed to helping in this process, and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Besmer, Mayor
City of Woodson Terrace

John Gwaltney, Mayor
City of Edmundson

Tom Halaska, Mayor
City of St. John

Theodore Hoskins, Mayor
City of Berkeley

Michael Corcoran, Mayor
City of St. Ann

Terrence Briggs, Mayor
City of Bridgeton

Matthew Robinson, Mayor
City of Hazelwood

Michael Schneider, Mayor
City of Overland

Mary Aman, Mayor
City of Breckenridge Hills

